

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ABIDJA 03878 220300Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OPIC-06 XMB-04 EB-08 TRSE-00
COME-00 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 OMB-01 AID-05
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FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8412
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS ABIDJAN 3878

PARIS FOR USUNESCO

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EINV, IV
SUBJ: PROPOSED OCEAN THERMAL ENERGY CONVERTER

REF: (A) ABIDJAN 3192; (B) STATE 073836

1. PACIFIC POWER AND PROTEIN PRESIDENT DAVID MAGER RETURNED TO NEW YORK APRIL 19 AFTER A THREE WEEK VISIT. HE WAS ABLE TO GATHER MOST OF THE INFORMATION NEEDED TO PREPARE A PROPOSAL TO CONSTRUCT AN OCEAN THERMAL ENERGY CONVERTER (OTEC) IN ABIDJAN.

2. MAGER WAS WELL RECEIVED BY THE IVORIANS WHO EXPRESSED INTEREST IN THE PROJECT. AN EMBOFF ACCOMPANIED HIM ON HIS CALLS ON SECRETARY GENERAL ALAIN BELKIRI AND MINISTER OF MINES GUI DIBO. BOTH OF THESE OFFICIALS STRESSED THAT THEY ARE EAGER TO RECEIVE A PROPOSAL FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN OTEC WITH FIRM COST FIGURES. THEY EXPRESSED MORE INTEREST IN THE OTEC THAN IN THE POSSIBLE COMPANION SHRIMP FARMING PROJECT.

3. MAGER PLANS TO DRAW UP A PROPOSAL SOON TO CONSTRUCT
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A 25 MEGAWATT OTEC AT A COST OF AROUND \$30 MILLION. THE IVORIANS WOULD PREFER A LARGER PLANT BUT MAGER BELIEVES IT WOULD BE BETTER TO START SMALL. HE POINTS OUT THAT THE TOTAL COST WOULD NOT BE GREATER IF A 50 MEGAWATT CAPACITY WERE ACHIEVED IN STAGES RATHER THAN BUILT ALL AT ONCE. THE SHRIMP FARMING PROJECT PROBABLY WILL NOT BE INCLUDED IN THE PROPOSAL, WHICH HE HOPES TO

PRESENT TO THE GOIC IN MAY.

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Message Attributes

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